

1 ABSTRACT

2 The present invention relates generally to mass spectrometry and the analysis of
3 chemical samples, and more particularly to ion guides for use therein. The invention
4 described herein comprises an improved method and apparatus for transporting ions from
5 a first pressure region in a mass spectrometer to a second pressure region therein. More
6 specifically, the present invention provides an improved stacked ring ion guide for more
7 efficient use in mass spectrometry (particularly with ionization sources) to transport ions
8 from a first pressure region to a second pressure region.